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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/609,315	06/27/2003	Dmitriy Meyerzon	13768.417	7349

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EXAMINER	
WANG, DIANA S	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2115	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/609,315	MEYERZON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Diana S. Wang	2115	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *27 June 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-28* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-28* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *9/11/2003,3/21/2003*
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28 are pending in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims14 and 28 (i.e. delimited value) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Appropriate corrections is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-5, 7, 10-11, 15-19, 21, 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over 0-7695-1632-7/02 2002 IEEE Publication Use of Metadata Registries for Searching for Statistical Data by Chris Nelson ("Nelson") in view of US Patent Application Publication 2004/0049766 A1 issued to Joshua J. Bloch et al. ("Bloch").

With respect to claim 1, Nelson teaches the invention comprising:

identifying at least one of the one or more document segments as an alias that correlates with a document datum found in an alias directory service (Nelson: page 233, [COSMOS]); and

associating the received document with the document alias so that, upon request for the document datum through a search engine, the received document is returned to the requester by association of the document datum with the alias (Nelson: page 234, [part of Registry Information Model]).

Nelson does not explicitly teach receiving a document and parsing the document as claimed.

Bloch teaches claimed invention of receiving a document (Bloch: Figure 3, element 302, page 3, [0037]) and parsing the document data into one or more document segments (Bloch: Figure 3, element 304, page 3, [0041]).

Nelson and Bloch are analogous because they are directed to associate metadata attributes with documents. Nelson teaches a method of normalizing document data to improve the results of search results. The following teachings of Nelson publication are pertinent to the claims:

(1) Nelson teaches placing the metadata in a registry (page 232, [The New Internet Paradigms]); linking of a number of the metadata repositories (page 233, [COSMOS]); identifying and associating one or more document segments using a registration information model (page 234, [part of registration information model] and associating a registry object to any other registry object via the association class (page 234, [Part of Registry Information Model]).

(2) Nelson also teaches of discovering statistical data and retrieving these data from appropriate repository (page 233, [COSMOS]).

(3) Nelson further suggests that for the first metadata registry/directory to spawn a query to one or more additional registries/directories and to pass the results back to the user (page 233, [Schematic of Registry Interoperability in the COSMOS project]).

(4) Finally Nelson teaches how documents/objects can be classified, and how objects can be searched based on the way they are classified (page 235, [A Simple Model to Support the Search for Statistical Data]).

Bloch teaches a method of receiving a document, parsing and associating metadata with document.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Nelson with teachings of Bloch. The combination would provide a method of receiving, parsing a document with metadata, associating metadata with one or more document segments from appropriate directories to improve the results of search requests.

As to claim 2, Nelson teaches that the said document data are metadata, and the sad alias is a document metadatum (Nelson: page 233, [registry], [cosmos]).

As to claim 3, Nelson teaches a method of further comprising identifying a secondary document reference contained within the received document; parsing the secondary document into secondary document segments; identifying the secondary document segment with a secondary alias, and associating the secondary document segment with the secondary alias, the secondary document, and the received document (Nelson: page 233, [COSMOS] "discover statistical data and to retrieve these data from the appropriate repository").

As to claim 4, Nelson teaches a method wherein the alias directory is a contact database containing one or more aliases for one or more terms associated with one or

more corresponding contacts (Nelson: page 234-235, [A Simple Model to Support the Search for Statistical Data]).

As to claim 5, Nelson teaches a method of identifying the document segment as part of a predefined class or a class alias, so that a data request through a search engine returns the requested data to the requester when the requester enters one or more of the identified class, the class alias, and the alias (Nelson: page 234-235, [A Simple Model to Support the Search for Statistical Data]).

As to claim 7, Nelson teaches a method of associating a term in an inverted index with one or more of the identified alias and the predefined class or class alias; and storing the inverted index for use by a search engine [Nelson: page 234-235, a simple model to support the search for statistical data]).

As to claim 10, Bloch teaches a method comprising: an act of receiving a document containing document data (Bloch: Figure 3, element 302, page 3, [0037]); an act of parsing the document data into one or more document segments (Bloch: Figure 3, element 304, page 3, [0041]). Nelson teaches a step for normalizing document metadata used as a reference by a search engine by maintaining one or more relationships between a search term and an alternate search term, a search term property or alternative search term property [Nelson: page 233-234, [schematic of registry interoperability in the COSMOS project], [a simple model to support the search for statistical data].

As to claim 11, Nelson teaches the step for improving future search results returned to a requester of a requested term includes: an act of identifying at least one of

the document segments as an alias for a document datum found in an alias directory service (Nelson: page 233, [COSMOS]); and an act of associating the received document with the document alias so that, upon request for the document datum through a search engine, the received document is returned to the requester by association with the alias(Nelson: page 234, [part of Registry Information Model]).

Claims 15-19 are essentially the same as claims 1-5 except that it set forth the claimed invention as a computer program product rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied above.

Claims 21 is essentially the same as claim 7 except that it set forth the claimed invention as a computer program product rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied above.

Claims 24-25 are essentially the same as claims 10-11 except that it set forth the claimed invention as a computer program product rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied above.

5. Claims 6, 8-9, 12-14, 20, 22-23, 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over 0-7695-1632-7/02 2002 IEEE Publication Use of Metadata Registries for Searching for Statistical Data by Chris Nelson ("Nelson") in view of US Patent Application Publication 2004/0049766 A1 issued to Joshua J. Bloch et al. ("Bloch") and further in view of WebDB 2000 publication Using Metadata to Enhance Web Information Gathering by Jeonghee Yi, Nee Sundaresan, and Anita Huang ("Yi").

With respect to claim 6, Nelson discloses associated terms, a metadata concept and a property type (Nelson: page 233, [Registry], [Schematic of Registry Interoperability in the COSMOS project]).

Nelson and Bloch do not explicitly teach a weighted value as claimed.

Yi teaches how to enhance topic specific search to determine the relevance of specific resources (Yi: page 41, The Web Gatherer Environment]).

Nelson, Bloch and Yi are analogous because they are directed to associate metadata attributes with documents. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Nelson, Bloch and Yi for a method wherein a weighted value can be used to determine the relevance of specific resources.

As to claim 8, Nelson teaches that the property type is an authorship property (Nelson: page 233, [registry], "there is now an international standard for metadata registries).

As to claim 9, Nelson teaches that a classification module further implements the method comprising: identifying a next document containing next document data that can be identified with the class, whereby the class comprises at least the document containing document data and the next document containing next document data; and based on the document data and the next document data, identifying additional documents within the class, so that the classification module is trained to associate additional documents with the class that would not have otherwise been identified

(Nelson: page 233-234, [COSMOS], [Schematic of Registry Interoperability in the COSMOS project][the role of the metadata model]).

With respect to claim 12, Nelson discloses a directory service data that includes one or more aliases for a metadatum (Nelson: page 233, [Registry], [Schematic of Registry Interoperability in the COSMOS project]).

Nelson and Bloch do not explicitly teach a gatherer module as claimed.

Yi teaches how to enhance topic specific search in a gatherer environment (Yi: page 39, [The Web Gatherer Environment]).

Nelson, Bloch and Yi are analogous because they are directed to associate metadata attributes with documents. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Nelson, Bloch and Yi for a method of receiving directory service data that include one or more aliases for a metadatum in a web gatherer environment. The web gatherer environment provide an information discovery infrastructure that aims to deliver useful information to users regardless of the location and the format of the information source, and is extensible to handle virtually any protocol any custom crawling strategies.

As to claim 13, Nelson teaches that parsing the directory service data; and associating the parsed data with one or more classes so that one or more documents are related by one or more corresponding classes and one or more metadata aliases (Nelson: page 234, [the role of the metadata model], [part of registry information model], [a simple model to support the search for statistical data]).

As to claim 14, Nelson teaches that the directory service data are contained in one or more of a contact database and a text file having delimited values, wherein the delimited values equate one or more alternative terms for a normalized value (Nelson: page 233, [Registry], "there is now an international standard for metadata registries").

Claims 20, 22, 23 are essentially the same as claims 6, 8, 9 except that it set forth the claimed invention as a computer program product rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied above.

Claims 26-28 are essentially the same as claims 12-14 except that it set forth the claimed invention as a computer program product rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied above.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diana S. Wang whose telephone number is 571-272-6522. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 12, 2005

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER